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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/883,178	06/19/2001	Wendy Naimark	12013/58201	9892

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KENYON & KENYON LLP
1500 K STREET N.W.
SUITE 700
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

MACNEILL, ELIZABETH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3767

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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08/21/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/883,178

Applicant(s)

NAIMARK ET AL.

Examiner

Elizabeth R. MacNeill

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 August 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 13-18 and 24-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 13-18 and 24-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

The indicated allowability of claim 30 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Theeuwes. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 13,14,16-18,25, and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Theeuwes (US 4,552,555).

Theeuwes teaches a device for modifying fluid moving through a vessel comprising a first lumen (45 to proximal portion of 60) with an exit orifice (at 62b), a second lumen (45 distal of chamber 60), a mixing chamber (60 up to membrane 64), and a passageway (64) between the mixing chamber and the second lumen containing a selectively permeable membrane (Col 6 line 60). A third lumen (within 60) is in communication with the mixing chamber. The membrane extracts a substance (by acting as a filter). The membrane may be a polycarbonate (Col 6 at line 60).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 13,14,16-18,24,25, and 27-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Preissman et al (US 5,833,652) in view of Theeuwes (US 4,552,555).

Preissman teaches a mixing catheter with a first lumen (10) and a second lumen (12) with a mixing chamber (area with holes 14) and an exit orifice (16). The passageways (14) allow the second lumen and the mixing chamber to communicate, but do not contain a selectively permeable membrane.

Theeuwes teaches a device for modifying fluid moving through a vessel comprising a first lumen (45 to proximal portion of 60) with an exit orifice (at 62b), a second lumen (45 distal of chamber 60), a mixing chamber (60 up to membrane 64), and a passageway (64) between the mixing chamber and the second lumen containing a selectively permeable membrane (Col 6 line 60) which can either extract or add a component to the fluid (Col 6 proximate line 60).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add the selectively permeable membrane of Theeuwes into the passageways (14) of Preissman because the membrane and the dual lumens would perform the same operations in combination and one of ordinary skill in the art would have expected that adding the membrane would produce the predictable result of adding or extracting a component from a medical fluid.

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As to claim 14, see lumen within coil 18; claims 16,25,29, 30, Col 6 proximate line 60 Theeuwes; claim 24, coil 18.

5. Claims 15 are 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Preissman and Theeuwes as applied to claim 13 above, and further in view of Guirguis (US 4,953,561).

As to claim 26, Preissman and Theeuwes do not teach the use of a glass microfiber membrane. Guirguis teaches a glass microfiber membrane (Col 3 line 50) with a medical fluid handling device.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a glass microfiber filter as a function equivalent to the preamble membrane of Theeuwes.

As to claim 15, Preissman and Theeuwes do not teach a source of vacuum in communication with the second lumen. Guirguis teaches a syringe which is used as a source of vacuum which also fluid to pass through the filter (12) and trap particles. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a source of vacuum in the second lumen in order to remove particles from the solution in the first lumen.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 3 August 2007 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Preissman and Theeuwes.

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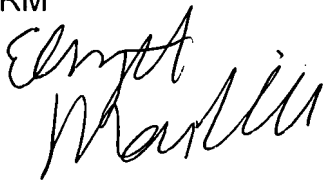
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Elizabeth R. MacNeill whose telephone number is (571)-272-9970. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-5:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kevin Sirmons can be reached on (571) 272-4965. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

ERM



KEVIN C. SIRMONS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

